Claims

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method for the treatment of diabetic ischemic disease in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor to the muscle of an ischemic site, thereby treating the diabetic ischemic disease, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is administered to the subject once every few weeks.

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

Claim 12 (original): The method according to claim 11, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

Claim 13 (canceled).

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

Claim 15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method according to claim 9, wherein at least 50 μg of the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is administered to the subject.

Claims 17-21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (new): The method of claim 9, wherein the nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor is administered every three to every five weeks.

Claim 23 (new): A method for the treatment of diabetic ischemic disease in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor to the muscle of an ischemic site, thereby treating the diabetic ischemic disease, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is administered to the subject once every few days.

Claim 24 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

Claim 25 (new): The method according to claim 24, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

Claim 26 (new): The method according to claim 24, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

Claim 27 (new): The method according to claim 23, wherein at least 50 μg of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF is administered to the subject.

Claim 28 (new): A method for increasing the mRNA level of ETS-1 in a muscle of a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor to the muscle of the subject, thereby increasing the ETS-1 mRNA level in the muscle.

Claim 29 (new): The method of claim 28, wherein the subject has diabetic ischemic disease.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 28, wherein the muscle is in an ischemic site.

Claim 31 (new): The method of claim 28, wherein the nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor is administered once every few weeks.

Claim 32 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

Claim 33 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

Claim 34 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

Claim 35 (new): The method according to claim 28, wherein at least 50 μg of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF is administered to the subject.

Claim 36 (new): A method for increasing the level of MMP-1 in a muscle of a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor to the muscle of the subject, thereby increasing the MMP-1 level in the muscle.

Claim 37 (new): The method of claim 36, wherein the subject has diabetic ischemic disease.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 36, wherein the muscle is in an ischemic site.

Claim 39 (new): The method of claim 36, wherein the nucleic acid encoding hepatocyte growth factor is administered once every few weeks.

Claim 40 (new): The method according to claim 36, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetic lower limb ischemic disease, diabetic ischemic neuropathy and diabetic ischemic myocardial infarction.

Claim 41 (new): The method according to claim 36, wherein the diabetic ischemic disease is diabetic lower limb ischemic disease.

Claim 42 (new): The method according to claim 36, wherein the nucleic acid encoding the hepatocyte growth factor is in the form of a Sendai virus (HVJ)-liposome.

Claim 43 (new): The method according to claim 36, wherein at least 50 μg of the nucleic acid encoding the HGF is administered to the subject.